

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the first paragraph on page 1 beginning on line 5 with the following paragraph:

This is a divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/844787, filed April 27, 2001 which claims priority to Provisional Application Serial No. 60/200044, filed on April 27, 2000, which is incorporated herein by reference.

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-41 canceled

42. (New) A searching system comprising:
- an authentication manager that accesses for each of a plurality of users (a) identification of a set of proprietary databases to which that user has access, and (b) authentication information specific to that user;
  - an interface that receives a search request from a specific one of the plurality of users;
  - and
  - software that automatically interacts with selected databases from the corresponding set of proprietary databases for the specific user, by submitting that user's corresponding authentication information to the selected databases using a graphical interface, formatting and submitting that user's search request to the selected databases, and receiving responses from responding ones of the selected databases.
43. (New) The searching system of claim 42, wherein the software is further configured to provide a summary of at least some of the responses to the specific user.

44. (New) The searching system of claim 42, wherein at least some of the responses provide access to full-text resources, and the software is further configured to provide hyperlinks for accessing at least some of the full-text resources.
45. (New) The searching system of claim 43, wherein at least some of the responses provide access to next-set resources, and the software is further configured to provide hyperlinks for accessing at least some of the next-set resources.
46. (New) The searching system of claim 43, wherein the software is further configured to provide a hyperlink and additional authentication information.
47. (New) The searching system of claim 42, wherein the software is configured such that an original search generates a plurality of session IDs and cookies for authentication and a translator builds hyperlinks for next-set and full-text resources.
48. (New) The searching system of claim 42, wherein the software includes as a plurality of concurrently running translators to accomplish the formatting.
49. (New) The searching system of claim 48, each of the plurality of translators communicates with its corresponding database using an interface protocol selected from a group consisting of HTTP, telnet, Z39.50 and ODBC.
50. (New) The searching system of claim 43, wherein the summary includes a markup language selected from a group consisting of HTML, DHTML and XML.
51. (New) The searching system of claim 42, wherein at least one of the plurality of translators translates from a generic search syntax.
52. (New) The searching system of claim 42, wherein the software submits concurrent searches for multiple ones of the plurality of users.
53. (New) A searching system comprising:  
an interface that receives a search request from a user, for querying a plurality of  
databases for which the user has authentication information;

software configured to automatically (a) access the databases using the user's authentication information, (b) submit the search request to the plurality of databases, (c) receives responses from responding ones of the selected databases, and (d) provide a summary containing hyperlinks and session IDs for accessing at least some of the responses.

54. (New) The searching system of claim 53, wherein at least some of the hyperlinks provide access to full-text resources.
55. (New) The searching system of claim 53, wherein at least some of the hyperlinks provide access to next-set resources.
56. (New) The searching system of claim 53, further comprising an authentication manager that accesses a list of the plurality of databases and the user's authentication information.
57. (New) The searching system of claim 53, wherein software is further configured as a plurality of concurrently running multiple translators.
58. (New) The searching system of claim 53, wherein the software is further configured to submit concurrent searches to the plurality of databases.
59. (New) The searching system of claim 53, wherein software is further configured to concurrently submit additional searches to at least some of the plurality of databases, for additional users having their own authentication information.
60. (New) The searching system of claim 53, wherein the summary further includes at least some authentication information.

**REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE**

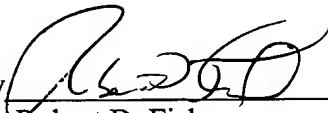
Claims 42-60 are pending in this application. The applicant requests allowance of all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

RUTAN & TUCKER

Date: 9/23/03

Attorneys for Applicant  
P.O. Box 1950  
Costa Mesa, CA 92628-1950

By   
Robert D. Fish  
Reg. No. 33880  
Tel.: (714) 641-5100  
Customer No. 34284